

## STABILIZED INTERFERON COMPOSITIONS

Stabilized pharmaceutical formulations comprising IFN- $\beta$  and highly purified  
5 mannitol are provided. The highly purified mannitol stabilizes the compositions by  
reducing the formation of IFN- $\beta$  adducts in comparison with IFN- $\beta$  formulated with  
mannitol that has not been highly purified. Methods for increasing the stability of IFN- $\beta$   
or a variant thereof in a liquid or lyophilized composition and for increasing storage  
stability of such a composition are also provided.

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